Data Repositories Expert Group (DREG) – Terms of Reference

Goal

The Canadian data repository landscape is rich and diverse, with data repositories in operation at national, regional, and local/institutional levels. Data repositories are many and varied but can be categorized broadly as generalist (i.e. accepting any and all types of research data), domain-specific (i.e. purpose-built to serve specialized disciplinary needs), and government (i.e. pertaining to data collected by government, including federal or provincial agencies and departments, as well as municipalities).

Collaborating with the Digital Research Alliance of Canada RDM Team, the Data Repositories Expert Group (DREG) will convene selected representatives from key repository stakeholder communities to provide high-level coordination for platform-specific working groups and to bring a broad and cohesive approach to repository development in Canada.

Objectives

1. Provide coordination for repository-focused working groups to leverage, develop, and promote strengths in Canada's national repository options.
2. Advise on the creation of, and set priorities for, *ad hoc* working groups to address specific challenges in the repository space.
3. Review repository-related deliverables from Alliance RDM Expert and Working Groups.
4. Engage with domain repositories to better understand areas for shared knowledge, coordinated support, and to identify gaps that need to be addressed.

5. Seek appropriate ways of avoiding duplication of effort by, among other things, promoting interoperability, integration of services, and development of technology and policy.
6. Work with National Training initiatives to identify and help respond to gaps in repository training materials.
7. Facilitate communications among Canadian repository service providers.
8. Advise on the development of new resources, tools, and services in the repository space.
9. Work with other Alliance RDM Expert Groups to ensure that repository operations align with other components of the DRI landscape.
10. Advise on priorities for future funding and targeted investments.
11. Work with international partners to promote cohesion within the global repository landscape (e.g., TRUST initiative).

Membership Composition

- Director, Research Data Management, Digital Research Alliance of Canada
- Chair of the Dataverse North Expert Group
- At least two representatives from domain-specific repositories
- Representative from ARC
- Representative from Borealis
- Representative from WDS-ITO/CoreTrustSeal
- Representative from National Research Council (NRC)
- Other representatives from the Digital Research Alliance of Canada, as appropriate
- Members drawn from the broader data repository community that have an interest in collaborating and advancing repository development.

Please see the [Digital Research Alliance of Canada's](#) website for the most up to date list of members.

Chair Selection

Procedures aligning with the Charter document (internally released 2023)

Frequency of meeting

Members will meet once a quarter for 90 minutes.

Last reviewed: 2024-10-02